



PATENT  
Docket No.: 20959/1680 (P54746)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|            |   |                                    |   |                |
|------------|---|------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Applicant  | : | Neubert et al.                     | ) | Examiner:      |
|            |   |                                    | ) | Patrick Niland |
| Serial No. | : | RCE of 10/079,071                  | ) |                |
|            |   |                                    | ) | Art Unit:      |
| Cnfrm. No. | : | 6986                               | ) | 1714           |
|            |   |                                    | ) |                |
| Filed      | : | February 20, 2002                  | ) |                |
|            |   |                                    | ) |                |
| For        | : | FILLER ON THE BASIS OF PARTICULATE | ) |                |
|            |   | COMPOSITE                          | ) |                |

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to the initial action on the merits, kindly amend the application identified in caption as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.